

KNIK ARM BRIDGE AND TOLL AUTHORITY

MINUTES #1 – 04

Board of Directors' meeting, January 21, 2004, Goldbelt Hotel, Tongass Room, Juneau, AK.

The meeting progressed in accordance with the previously established and published agenda, which is attached and part of these minutes.

The meeting was duly noticed in the "Anchorage Daily News" and "Juneau Empire" legal sections as a public meeting in both publications on January 12, 2004.

Numbers in these minutes correspond with the numbers in the agenda.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Chairman George Wuerch.

1. Roll Call by Chair George Wuerch

A quorum was established with five voting and two nonvoting directors in attendance: Representative Bill Stoltze, Senator Lyda Green, Commissioner Mike Barton, Commissioner Bill Corbus, Dave Haugen, Darcie Salmon.

Also present: Deputy Commissioner of Revenue Tom Boutin; Jim Cantor, Chief Asst. AG; Henry Springer, Interim Executive Director, and Darryl Jordan, Professional Services Contractor.

Recorder: Betty Fauber, KABATA

Cantor introduced Bill Greene and Peter Putzier, both Legal Counsels in AG's Office; and Wuerch welcomed Dave Miller, Peter Serrano and John Lohrey all from FWHA.

There were six members of the public in attendance.

2. Agenda was approved as presented.

Action #30-1-04.

3. Minutes from Meeting #4-03 were unanimously approved with one correction to be made under Item #4, Chair's Report to read "... Senate from House Appropriations Bill."

Action #31-1-04.

4. Chair's Report by George Wuerch

Chairman Wuerch reported that since the last Board meeting multiple PowerPoint presentations have made to stakeholders including jointly to the House and Senate Transportation Committees and that letters have been mailed to many other public groups asking if they would like a presentation. This is being done as part of a public awareness program to broaden the knowledge of the "shore-to-shore" scope of the project.

Wuerch gave a status report on project funding and advised that preparations are being made to move into the environmental assessment planning stage as soon as funding is secured.

He acknowledged appreciation for the work Mike Scott has done for ADOT, Mat-Su Borough and the Municipality of Anchorage during his tenures. Scott recently relocated to the Seattle area.

5. Executive Director's Report by Henry Springer

Springer reported that Darryl Jordan's Professional Services Contract has been extended to include work on the next three RFPs for Engineering, Environmental and Regulatory consultants, and that Bill Greene has been designated our contact for legal and regulatory matters. Workplans for January and February were furnished.

Springer stated that work is being done on the administrative details of the Policy and Procedures, Procurement Code and on the MOU with ADOT, and Title VI requirements.

Springer advised that an annual report was submitted to the Legislature as required.

6. Old Business

- a. Home Page on Internet: www.knikarmbridge.com
Betty Fauber gave a report about the implementation of the website and encouraged members to critique the site and suggest enhancements.
- b. MoU with ADOT/PF Update
Wuerch advised that work is still being done on the MoU.
- c. Executive Director: Employment Status
Wuerch asked that this item be moved to the end of the agenda to include an Executive Session.

7. New Business

- a. FHWA "Mega Projects"
Springer informed the Board about Congress's new reporting requirements for projects over \$100 million to include detailed financial and management plans for budget control purposes. He stated that this project would probably be included.
- b. Engineering Feasibility and Cost Estimate Update
Springer reported that the ADOT should have the geotechnical report rewriting available in next two to three weeks as a semi-final draft that will include a cost concept estimate in the range of \$400 to \$800 million. Congressman Young has been asked for a placeholder in the TEA-21 Reauthorization Bill for \$100 million for 6 years for this project; however, the date that Congress will vote on this Bill has not been determined.

c. Annual Report to Legislature

Springer advised the Board that an Annual Report was submitted on January 12, 2004. A draft was included in the Board's packet. (Note: submitted document has Senator Green's name spelled correctly.)

d. UAA Civil Engineering Project (CE 438)

Springer reported that Professor Quimby's senior engineering students will explore technical and design concepts for the Knik Arm crossing including evaluating environmental aspects and will be required to produce preliminary designs. At the request of Professor Quimby, Springer presented to the Board for consideration a request for a contribution to the UAA School of Engineering of \$20,000 to be used towards the expenses associated with this undertaking. It was recommended to make a grant of \$10,000 available.

Action #32-01-04

MOTION by Salmon, second by Haugen for discussion.

After discussion, Salmon called for question: Should KABATA make a contribution.

Action #33-01-04

Motion failed by vote of four to one.

To assure the students understand the scope of the project, Springer will offer guidance to the class.

e. FHWA/NEPA Seminar, Jan. 22, 2004

Wuerch reminded that seminar would be held tomorrow from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM in the Tongass Room, Goldbelt Hotel, Juneau, AK.

f. IBTTA Membership

Wuerch stated that having access to the knowledge base of the International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA) would be advantageous. There are over 100 Toll Authorities in existence and with local jurisdictions opting for cost causers being the cost payers another 40 to 50 Authorities are being formed currently. Membership will be pursued.

8. Directors' Remarks

Wuerch expressed gratitude about the Wasilla City Council Resolution Serial No. 04-03 supporting the Knik Arm Crossing (copy included in the Board packet). Directors Salmon and Haugen commented on the RTPO meeting, ARR resolution, and real estate development.

9. Public Comments

None

10. Other

Because of the confidential nature of a personal matter, Springer and the attending public left the room and the Board went into Executive Session at 3:10 PM.

The Board returned to open session at 3:20pm.

a. Executive Director: Employment Status

Wuerch introduced for discussion the change in Henry Springer's employment status from Interim Executive Director to Executive Director.

After discussion,
Action #34-1-04

MOTION by Salmon, second by Haugen, to make change effective February 1, 2004 with other employment conditions remaining in effect.

Motion approved by unanimous vote.

11. Announcements

Wuerch announced that unless otherwise notified the next board meeting will be held in April 2004 at which time the consultant team would have a work plan developed. The date, time and place will be announced when determined.

12. Adjournment: 3:30 PM

Action #35-1-04
MOTION by Salmon, second by Haugen

Minutes Approved: Unanimous Board approval at April 27, 2004 Board Meeting.

Attest: _____

Date: _____